## LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

## ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SESSION

# LEGISLATIVE BILL 119

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Read first time: January 8, 2007

Committee: Banking, Commerce and Insurance

#### A BILL

1	FOR AN	ACT relating to the Insurers Investment Act; to amend
2		sections 44-5110, 44-5111, 44-5120, 44-5137, 44-5140,
3		44-5141, and 44-5152, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
4		and sections 44-5103 and 44-5153, Revised Statutes
5		Cumulative Supplement, 2006; to change provisions relating
6		to participation, investment limitations, securities, stock,
7		and additional authorized investments; to redefine a term;
8		and to repeal the original sections.
9	Be it en	acted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 44-5103, Revised Statutes Cumulative
Supplement, 2006, is amended to read:

3 44-5103. For purposes of the Insurers Investment Act:

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- (1) Admitted assets means the investments authorized under the act and stated at values at which they are permitted to be reported in the insurer's financial statement filed under section 44-322, except that admitted assets does not include assets of separate accounts, the investments of which are not subject to the act;
- (2) Agent means a national bank, state bank, trust company, or broker-dealer that maintains an account in its name in a clearing corporation or that is a member of the Federal Reserve System and through which a custodian participates in a clearing corporation including the Treasury/Reserve Automated Debt Entry Securities System and Treasury Direct system, except that with respect to securities issued by institutions organized or existing under the laws of a foreign country or securities used to meet deposit requirements pursuant to the laws of a foreign country as a condition of doing business therein, agent may include a corporation that is organized or existing under the laws of a foreign country and that is legally qualified under those laws to accept custody of securities; (3) Business entity means а proprietorship, sole
- corporation, limited liability company, association, partnership, limited liability partnership, joint-stock company, joint venture, mutual fund, trust, joint tenancy, or other similar form of business organization, whether organized for profit or not for profit;
  - (4) Clearing corporation means a clearing corporation as

defined in subdivision (a)(5) of section 8-102, Uniform Commercial Code, that is organized for the purpose of effecting transactions in securities by computerized book-entry, except that with respect to securities issued by institutions organized or existing under the laws of a foreign country or securities used to meet the deposit requirements pursuant to the laws of a foreign country as a condition of doing business therein, clearing corporation may include a corporation that is organized or existing under the laws of a foreign country and which is legally qualified under those laws to effect transactions in securities by computerized book-entry. Clearing corporation also includes Treasury/Reserve Automated Debt Entry Securities System and Treasury Direct system;

### (5) Custodian means:

(a) A national bank, state bank, or trust company that shall at all times during which it acts as a custodian pursuant to the Insurers Investment Act be no less than adequately capitalized as determined by the standards adopted by United States banking regulators and that is regulated by either state banking laws or is a member of the Federal Reserve System and that is legally qualified to accept custody of securities in accordance with the standards set forth below, except that with respect to securities issued by institutions organized or existing under the laws of a foreign country, or securities used to meet the deposit requirements pursuant to the laws of a foreign country as a condition of doing business therein, custodian may include a bank or trust company incorporated or organized under the laws of a country other than the United States that is regulated as such by that country's government or an agency

thereof that shall at all times during which it acts as a custodian

pursuant to the Insurers Investment Act be no less than adequately

capitalized as determined by the standards adopted by international

banking authorities and that is legally qualified to accept custody of

securities; or

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- (b) A broker-dealer that shall be registered with and subject to jurisdiction of the Securities and Exchange Commission, maintains membership in the Securities Investor Protection Corporation, and has a tangible net worth equal to or greater than two hundred fifty million dollars;
- (6) Custodied securities means securities held by the custodian or its agent or in a clearing corporation, including the Treasury/Reserve Automated Debt Entry Securities System and Treasury Direct system;
- (7) Direct when used in connection with the term obligation means that the designated obligor is primarily liable on the instrument representing the obligation;
- (8) Director means the Director of Insurance;
- (9) Insurer is defined as provided in section 44-103, and unless the context otherwise requires, insurer means domestic insurer;
- 21 (10) Mortgage means a consensual interest created by a real 22 estate mortgage, a trust deed on real estate, or a similar instrument;
- 23 (11) Obligation means a bond, debenture, note, or other 24 evidence of indebtedness <u>or participations</u>, <u>certificates</u>, <u>or other</u>
- 25 <u>evidences of an interest in any of the foregoing;</u>
  - (12) Policyholders surplus means the amount obtained by subtracting from the admitted assets (a) actual liabilities and (b)

1 any and all reserves which by law must be maintained. In the case of a

- 2 stock insurer, the policyholders surplus also includes the paid-up and
- 3 issued capital stock;
- 4 (13) Securities Valuation Office means the Securities
- 5 Valuation Office of the National Association of Insurance
- 6 Commissioners or any successor office established by the National
- 7 Association of Insurance Commissioners;
- 8 (14) Security certificate has the same meaning as defined in
- 9 subdivision (a)(16) of section 8-102, Uniform Commercial Code;
- 10 (15) State means any state of the United States, the
- 11 District of Columbia, or any territory organized by Congress;
- 12 (16) Tangible net worth means shareholders equity, less
- intangible assets, as reported in the broker-dealer's most recent
- 14 Annual or Transition Report pursuant to section 13 or 15(d) of the
- 15 Securities Exchange Act of 1934, S.E.C. Form 10-K, filed with the
- 16 Securities and Exchange Commission; and
- 17 (17) Treasury/Reserve Automated Debt Entry Securities System
- and Treasury Direct system mean the book-entry securities systems
- established pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 301, 12 U.S.C. 391, and 31 U.S.C.
- 20 3101 et seq. The operation of the systems are subject to 31 C.F.R.
- 21 part 357 et seq.
- Sec. 2. Section 44-5110, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- Nebraska, is amended to read:
- 24 44-5110. (1) An insurer may invest in an individual interest
- 25 of a pool of obligations or a fractional interest of a single
- 26 obligation if:
- 27 (a) The certificate of participation or interest or the

1 confirmation of participation or interest in the investment is issued 2 in the name of the insurer, a custodian bank, or the nominee of 3 either; and

- (b) The certificate or confirmation, if held by a custodian bank, is kept separate and apart from the investment of others so that at all times the participation or interest may be identified as belonging solely to the insurer making the investment.
- adequate evidence of the insurer's investment shall be obtained from the issuer or its transfer or recording agent and retained by the insurer, custodian bank, or clearing corporation except as provided in subdivision (2) of section 44-5109. For purposes of this subsection, adequate evidence shall mean a written receipt or other verification issued by the depository, issuer, or custodian bank which shows that the investment is held for the insurer. Transfers of ownership or investments held as described in subdivisions (1)(c) and (2) of section 44-5109 and this section may be evidenced by a bookkeeping entry on the books of the issuer of the investment, its transfer or recording agent, or the clearing corporation without physical delivery of certificates, if any, evidencing the insurer's investment.
- (3) Any investment made pursuant to this section shall also conform with the following:
- 23 (a) The investment in which the interest is purchased shall
  24 be authorized under the Insurers Investment Act; and
  - (b) The insurer's pro rata interest in the investment shall be in the same percentage as the par amount of its interest bears to the outstanding par amount of the investment at the time of purchase.

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(c) Any person, other than an insurer, that is the obligor of the investment instrument or the investor from whom the interest is purchased shall have outstanding senior debt or commercial paper having a minimum quality rating as described in subdivision (2) of section 44-5112 or subsection (2) of section 44-5138; and (d) Any insurer that is the obligor of the investment instrument or the investor from whom the interest is purchased shall be rated A or better by A.M. Best's rating service or the corresponding rating of a successor organization approved by the director.

- (4) An investment may be authorized under this section although its interest does not include the right to exercise the investor's rights or enforce the investor's remedies according to the provisions of the issue.
- 16 (5) Any investment made pursuant to this section shall be
  17 purchased pursuant to a written participation agreement.
- 18 (6) An insurer's investments authorized under this section

  19 shall not exceed ten percent of its admitted assets.
- Sec. 3. Section 44-5111, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:
  - 44-5111. Any investment limitation in the Insurers Investment Act based upon the amount of the insurer's admitted assets or policyholders surplus shall relate to admitted assets or policyholders surplus as shown by the most recent financial statement filed by the insurer pursuant to section 44-322 unless the insurer's admitted assets or policyholders surplus is revised as a result of an

1 examination conducted pursuant to the Insurers Examination Act, in 2 which case the results of the examination shall control. Except as otherwise provided by law, an investment shall be measured by the 3 lesser of actual cost or admitted value at the time of acquisition. 4 5 If there is no actual cost at the time of acquisition, the investment 6 shall be measured at the lesser of fair value or admitted value. 7 For purposes of this section, actual cost shall mean 8 means the total amount invested, expended, or which should be reasonably anticipated to be invested or expended in the acquisition 9 or organization of any investment, insurer, or subsidiary, including 10 11 all organizational expenses or contributions to capital and surplus whether or not represented by the purchase of capital stock or 12 issuance of other securities. 13

14 Sec. 4. Section 44-5120, Reissue Revised Statutes of
15 Nebraska, is amended to read:

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44-5120. (1) An insurer may lend its securities if:

(a) The securities are created or existing under the laws of the United States and, simultaneously with the delivery of the loaned securities, the insurer receives collateral from the borrower consisting of cash or securities backed by the full faith and credit of the United States or an agency or instrumentality of the United States, except that any securities provided as collateral shall not be of lesser quality than the quality of the loaned securities. Any investment made by an insurer with cash received as collateral for loaned securities shall be made in the same kinds, classes, and investment grades as those authorized under the Insurers Investment Act and in a manner that recognizes the liquidity needs of the

transaction or is used by the insurer for its general corporate

purposes. The securities provided as collateral shall have a market

value when the loan is made of at least one hundred two percent of

the market value of the loaned securities;

- (b) The securities are created or existing under the laws of Canada or are securities described in section 44-5137 and, simultaneously with the delivery of the loaned securities, the insurer receives collateral from the borrower consisting of cash or securities backed by the full faith and credit of the foreign country, except that any securities provided as collateral shall not be of lesser quality than the quality of the loaned securities. Any investment made by an insurer with cash received as collateral for loaned securities shall be made in the same kinds, classes, and investment grades as those authorized under the Insurers Investment Act and in a manner that recognizes the liquidity needs of the transaction or is used by the insurer for its general corporate purposes. The securities provided as collateral shall have a market value when the loan is made of at least one hundred two percent of the market value of the loaned securities;
- (c) Prior to the loan, the borrower or any indemnifying party furnishes the insurer with or the insurer otherwise obtains the most recent financial statement of the borrower or any indemnifying party;
- 24 (d) The insurer receives a reasonable fee related to the 25 market value of the loaned securities and to the term of the loan;
- 26 (e) The loan is made pursuant to a written loan agreement;
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business day during the term of the loan a report of the market value of all collateral and the market value of all loaned securities as of the close of trading on the previous business day. If at the close of any business day the market value of the collateral for any loan outstanding to a borrower is less than one hundred percent of the market value of the loaned securities, the borrower shall deliver by the close of the next business day an additional amount of cash or securities. The market value of the additional securities, together with the market value of all previously delivered collateral, shall equal at least one hundred two percent of the market value of the loaned securities for that loan.

(2) If at the close of any business day the market value of the collateral for all loans outstanding to a borrower is less than one hundred two percent of the market value of the loaned securities, the borrower shall deliver by the close of the next business day an additional amount of cash or securities. The market value of the additional securities, together with the market value of all previously delivered collateral, shall equal at least one hundred two percent of the market value of the loaned securities for all loans to that borrower. This subsection does not apply if the insurer receives eash collateral for all loans outstanding to the borrower.

(3) (2) For purposes of this section, market value shall include includes accrued interest.

(4) (3) An insurer shall effect securities lending only through the services of a custodian bank or similar entity as approved by the director.

1 (5) (4) An insurer's investments authorized under this 2 section shall not exceed ten percent of its admitted assets.

- 3 Sec. 5. Section 44-5137, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 4 Nebraska, is amended to read:

authorized for investment under

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- 44-5137. (1) An insurer may invest in securities or other investments (a) issued in, (b) located in, (c) denominated in the currency of, (d) whose ultimate payment amounts of principal or interest are subject to fluctuations in the currency of, or (e) whose obligors are domiciled in countries other than the United States or Canada, which are substantially of the same kinds and classes as those
- 12 (2) Subject to the limitations in subsection (3) of this section:

the Insurers

Investment Act.

- (a) An insurer's investments authorized under subsection (1) of this section in any one foreign jurisdiction whose sovereign debt has a 1 designation from the Securities Valuation Office shall not exceed ten percent of the insurer's admitted assets;
  - (b) An insurer's investments authorized under subsection (1) of this section in any one foreign jurisdiction whose sovereign debt has a 2 or 3 designation from the Securities Valuation Office shall not exceed five percent of the insurer's admitted assets;
  - (c) An insurer's investments authorized under subsection (1) of this section shall not include investments in any one foreign jurisdiction whose sovereign debt has a 4, 5, or 6 designation from the Securities Valuation Office shall not exceed three percent of the
- 26 insurer's admitted assets;
- 27 (d) An insurer's investments authorized under subsection (1)

of this section denominated in any one foreign currency shall not exceed two percent of the insurer's admitted assets; and

(e) An insurer's investments authorized under subsection (1) of this section denominated in foreign currencies, in the aggregate, shall not exceed five percent of the insurer's admitted assets; and

(f) An insurer's investments authorized under subsection (1) of this section shall not be considered denominated in a foreign currency if the acquiring insurer enters into one or more contracts in transactions permitted under section 44-5149 to exchange all payments made on the foreign currency denominated investments for United States currency at a rate which effectively insulates the investment cash flows against future changes in currency exchange rates during the period the contract or contracts are in effect.

- (3) An insurer's investments authorized under subsection (1) of this section shall not exceed, in the aggregate, fifteen twenty percent of its admitted assets.
- (4) An insurer which is authorized to do business in a foreign country or which has outstanding insurance, annuity, or reinsurance contracts on lives or risks resident or located in a foreign country may, in addition to the investments authorized by subsection (1) of this section, invest in securities and investments (a) issued in, (b) located in, (c) denominated in the currency of, (d) whose ultimate payment amounts of principal and interest are subject to fluctuations in the currency of, or (e) whose obligors are domiciled in such foreign countries, which are substantially of the same kinds and classes as those authorized for investment under the

- 1 act.
- 2 (5) An insurer's investments authorized under subsection (4)
- of this section and cash in the currency of such country which is at
- 4 any time held by such insurer, in the aggregate, shall not exceed the
- 5 greater of (a) one and one-half times the amount of its reserves and
- 6 other obligations under such contracts or (b) the amount which such
- 7 insurer is required by law to invest in such country.
- 8 (6) Any investment in debt obligations authorized under this
- 9 section shall have a minimum quality rating as described in
- 10 subdivision (2) of section 44-5112.
- 11 (7) An insurer's investments made under this section shall
- 12 be aggregated with investments of the same kinds and classes made
- 13 under the Insurers Investment Act except section 44-5153 for purposes
- 14 of determining compliance with the limitations contained in other
- 15 sections.
- 16 Sec. 6. Section 44-5140, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 17 Nebraska, is amended to read:
- 18 44-5140. (1) An insurer may invest in the preferred stock of
- 19 any corporation which:
- 20 (a) Has retained earnings of not less than one million
- 21 dollars;
- 22 (b) Has earned and paid regular dividends at the regular
- 23 prescribed rate each year upon its preferred stock, if any is or has
- 24 been outstanding, for not less than five years immediately preceding
- 25 the purchase of such preferred stock or during such part of such
- 26 five-year period as it has had preferred stock outstanding; and
- 27 (c) Has had no material defaults in principal payments of or

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1 interest on any obligations of such corporation and its subsidiaries 2 having a priority equal to or higher than those purchased during the 3 period of five years immediately preceding the date of acquisition or, if outstanding for less than five years, at any time since such 4 5 obligations were issued.

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The earnings of and the regular dividends paid by all predecessor, merged, consolidated, or purchased corporations may be included through the use of consolidated or pro forma statements.

- (2) Except as authorized under the Insurance Holding Company System Act, an insurer shall not own more than five percent of the total issued shares of stock of any corporation other than an insurer.
- (3) A life insurer's investments authorized under this section shall not exceed the greater of ten twenty-five percent of its admitted assets or one hundred percent of its policyholders surplus, nor shall a life insurer's investments authorized under this section that are not rated P-1 or P-2 by the Securities Valuation Office exceed ten percent of its admitted assets.
- Sec. 7. Section 44-5141, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read: 19

44-5141. (1) An insurer may invest in the common stock or rights to purchase or sell common stock of any corporation which has retained earnings of not less than one million dollars, except that an investment may be made in any corporation having a majority of its operations in this state which has retained earnings of not less than two hundred fifty thousand dollars. The earnings of all predecessor, merged, consolidated, or purchased corporations shall be included through the use of consolidated or pro forma statements.

(2)(a) An insurer may invest in equity interests or rights
to purchase or sell equity interests in business entities, other than
general partnerships. , created or existing under the laws of the

United States or Canada or any state or province thereof.

(b)(i) A life insurer's investments authorized under this
subsection shall not exceed fifty percent of its policyholders

8 (ii) A life insurer shall not invest under this subsection 9 in any investment which the life insurer may invest in under section 10 44-5140 or 44-5144 or subsection (1) of this section.

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surplus.

- 11 (3) Except as authorized under the Insurance Holding Company
  12 System Act, an insurer shall not invest in more than ten percent of
  13 the total equity interests in any business entity other than an
  14 insurer.
- 15 (4) A life insurer's investments authorized under this
  16 section shall not exceed one hundred percent of its policyholders
  17 surplus.
- 18 Sec. 8. Section 44-5152, Reissue Revised Statutes of
  19 Nebraska, is amended to read:
- 44-5152. (1) Subject In addition to investments otherwise

  authorized under the Insurers Investment Act and subject to the

  limitations in subsections (2) through (4) and (3) of this

  section, an insurer may invest in obligations having 3, 4, 5, and 6

  designations from the Securities Valuation Office.
- 25 (2) Subject to the limitation in subsection (4) (3) of
  26 this section, an insurer shall not acquire, directly or indirectly
  27 through an investment subsidiary, investments in obligations:

1	(a) An insurer's investments in obligations having a 4
2	designation from the Securities Valuation Office shall not exceed four
3	percent of the insurer's admitted assets; Having a 4 designation
4	from the Securities Valuation Office if, as a result of and giving
5	effect to the investment, the aggregate amount of such investments
6	would exceed four percent of the insurer's admitted assets;
7	(b) An insurer's investments in obligations having a 5
8	designation from the Securities Valuation Office shall not exceed two
9	percent of the insurer's admitted assets; and Having a 5
10	designation from the Securities Valuation Office if, as a result of
11	and giving effect to the investment, the aggregate amount of such
12	investments would exceed two percent of the insurer's admitted
13	assets; and
14	(c) An insurer's investments in obligations having a 6
15	designation from the Securities Valuation Office shall not exceed one
16	percent of the insurer's admitted assets. Having a 6 designation
17	from the Securities Valuation Office if, as a result of and giving
18	effect to the investment, the aggregate amount of such investments
19	would exceed one percent of the insurer's admitted assets.
20	(3) Subject to the limitations in subsection (2) of this
21	section:
22	(a) An insurer's investments in obligations having any
23	combination of 4, 5, and 6 designations from the Securities Valuation
24	Office, except the combination described in subdivision (3)(b) of
25	this section, in the aggregate, shall not exceed four percent of the
26	insurer's admitted assets; and
27	(b) An insurer's investments in obligations having 5 and 6

1 designations from the Securities Valuation Office, in the aggregate, 2 shall not exceed two percent of the insurer's admitted assets. 3 (4) An insurer's investments authorized under this section, 4 in the aggregate, shall not exceed fifteen percent of its admitted 5 <del>assets.</del> 6 (3) An insurer shall not acquire, directly or indirectly 7 through an investment subsidiary, investments under this section if, 8 as a result of and giving effect to the investment, the aggregate amount would exceed fifteen percent of the insurer's admitted 9 10 <u>assets.</u> 11 9. Section 44-5153, Revised Statutes Cumulative 12 Supplement, 2006, is amended to read: 44-5153. (1)(a)(i) A life insurer may make investments not 13 14 otherwise authorized under the Insurers Investment Act in an amount, in the aggregate, not exceeding the lesser of five percent of its 15 16 admitted assets or one hundred percent of its policyholders surplus. 17 (ii) An insurer other than a life insurer may make investments not otherwise authorized under the act in an amount, in 18 the aggregate, not exceeding the lesser of twenty-five percent of the 19 amount by which its admitted assets exceed its total liabilities, 20 21 excluding capital, or five percent of its admitted assets. 22 (b) Investments authorized under this subsection shall not include obligations having 3, 4, 5, and 6 designations from the 23 24 Securities Valuation Office. 25 (2)(a) Notwithstanding In addition to the provisions of subdivision (1)(a)(i) of this section, a life insurer may make 26

investments not otherwise authorized under the act in an amount not

exceeding that portion of its policyholders surplus which is in excess
of ten percent of its admitted assets.

- (b) Notwithstanding In addition to the provisions of subdivisions (1)(a)(ii) and (b) of this section, an insurer other than a life insurer may make investments not otherwise authorized under the act in an amount not exceeding that portion of its policyholders surplus which is in excess of fifty percent of its annual net written premiums as shown by the most recent annual financial statement filed by the insurer pursuant to section 44-322.
- 10 (3) Investments authorized under subsection (1) or (2) of
  11 this section shall not include insurance agents' balances or amounts
  12 advanced to or owing by insurance agents.
  - (4) The limitations set forth in this section shall be applied at the time the investment in question is made and at the end of each calendar quarter. An insurer's investment, which at the time of its acquisition was authorized only under the provisions of this section but which has subsequently and while held by such insurer become of such character as to be authorized elsewhere under the act, shall not be included in determining the amount of such insurer's investments, in the aggregate, authorized under this section, and investments otherwise authorized under the act at the time of their acquisition shall not be included in making such determination.
- (5) Derivative instruments described in subsections (1),
  (2), and (3) of section 44-5149 shall not be authorized investments
  under this section.
- 26 Sec. 10. Original sections 44-5110, 44-5111, 44-5120, 27 44-5137, 44-5140, 44-5141, and 44-5152, Reissue Revised Statutes of

1 Nebraska, and sections 44-5103 and 44-5153, Revised Statutes

2 Cumulative Supplement, 2006, are repealed.